

Listing of Claims

The status of the claims in the present application, presented in numerical order:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A fluid flow engine comprising

a central housing part in which a turbine shaft is mounted,

said housing part having

a turbine side and

a compressor side and being integrally molded as part of a turbine housing on the turbine side and as part of a compressor housing on the compressor side,

wherein a turbine inlet connection is arranged tangentially to the turbine shaft on the central housing part on the turbine side,

a turbine discharge connection is arranged axially on the turbine housing,

a compressor outlet connection is arranged tangentially on the central housing part on the compressor side, and

a compressor inlet connection is arranged axially on the compressor housing;

and

wherein a cover is provided on the compressor side or on the turbine side or on both, and

the cover is constructed as part of the housing, and

a spiral channel for the turbine side or for the compressor side or for both is provided in the central housing part, said spiral channel closed over by a respective one of said covers,

wherein the spiral channel is formed exclusively in the central housing part,

wherein said cover in an area adjacent to its respective spiral channel is constructed to be flat,

wherein said turbine inlet connection or said compressor outlet connection or both join tangentially to said spiral channel,

wherein the spiral channel has a maximum depth in the direction of the turbine shaft,

wherein said spiral channel is oblong in cross section, said oblong spiral channel cross section wider in a radial direction compared to an axial depth of said cross section taken in an axial direction, directions taken relative to said turbine shaft,

wherein for a given spiral channel cross section area, the axial depth of the oblong spiral channel into the housing part is reduced relative to a non-oblong spiral channel due to radial widening of said oblong spiral channel cross section,

wherein the housing part can thereby be axially shortened by use of said oblong spiral channel.

15. (Original) A fluid flow engine as claimed in claim 14, wherein the spiral channels can be arranged in any desired rotational position in relation to one another around the housing circumference owing to their specific maximum depth, so that the tangential connections can be positioned at any angle relative to one another.

16. (Currently Amended) A fluid flow engine as claimed in claim ~~[[10]]~~ 14, wherein at least one connection is angled and extends parallel to the turbine shaft.

17. (Original) A fluid flow engine as claimed in claim 16, wherein the tangential connections are arranged at a variable angle to the axis of the turbine shaft.

18. (Currently Amended) A fluid flow engine as claimed in claim ~~[[10]]~~ 14, wherein the tangential connections are arranged on the cover of the turbine side.

19. (Currently Amended) A fluid flow engine as claimed in claim ~~[[10]]~~ 14, wherein the tangential connections are arranged on the cover of the compressor side.

20- 22. (Canceled)